Mum, tell me a story

THE GREEDY KING & OTHER STORIES

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The Lazy Rabbit

The rabbit was living in a carrot field. Every day, he came out of the tunnel which he dug to eat carrot without being seen by anyone. The rabbit noticed that the tunnel became too narrow. He came out of it with difficulty. All the other rabbits advised him to widen his house but he was too lazy to work. Whenever he came out of his house, he looked at it and decided to repair it the next day. One day, the rabbit came out of his house with great difficulty. He ate carrot until his stomach was full. He wanted to go back to his house but he wasn't able to come in. The owner of the field came and he caught the rabbit by the ears. His mouth watered imagining himself eating a delicious fat rabbit. The rabbit cried sadly because his laziness brought him to his end.





The Greedy King

The king went out on his horse. On his way, he saw a shepherd looking after his sheep. The king was very thirsty. He came near the shepherd and asked him for a glass of milk.

The shepherd gave him a very delicious glass of milk. The king drank the milk and liked its taste. The king was greedy; He wanted to take the sheep of the man without giving him any money. He ordered his soldiers to take the sheep. He didn't pay any attention to the shepherd who was crying and begging him not to take the sheep. The king went back to his castle. He was astonished to find that his castle and the surrounding gardens were all turned to sand. The king was frightened and he remembered the shepherd who he wronged. He went back to him and returned the sheep to him. He decided to give up his greed. When he came back to his castle, he found that it returned as it was.





The Sleeping Goose

The flock of geese landed near the lake. They spent long time there enjoying plenty of food and fresh water. All the geese were happy except one goose. She was always complaining. She didn't like anything. She spent all day sleeping. One day, her friends asked her to come with them to look for food instead of sleeping and laziness. She bent her long neck under her wings and refused to go with them. After some time, a hunter came. She didn't take notice of him because she was sleeping. He threw his net over. The goose was frightened. She tried to free herself but she couldn't. She looked up at the sky. She saw the flock of geese flying. She was sorry for her laziness that made her caught in the hunter's trap.





The Snake And The Frogs

The frogs were living in a small lake. One day, the snake came to the frogs. He asked them to stay with them because he was ill. He promised not to harm them. The frogs discussed the matter over and they accepted. The snake stayed with the frogs near the lake until he got well. The frogs trusted him and got used to him. One day, the snake was lying near the lake. He saw the small frogs playing. The snake was hungry. He opened his mouth and swallowed some of them. The frogs became angry. They decided to send the snake away. They called their friend, the kind owl, and told her what happened. The owl attacked the snake. She took him and flew away. The snake was crying for help.

The frogs lived peacefully and safely in their lake, ever after.





The Deer And The Fox

The fox was walking near the lake when he saw a beautiful deer drinking from the lake. The fox's mouth watered and he wanted to hunt the deer. He came near slowly to attack her. The deer was busy looking at her image in the water. She didn't take notice of the fox. She, suddenly, saw him and tried to escape but the fox was in front of her and the water was behind her. The deer thought quickly. She, then, pointed to the water and told the fox to wait for her sister who was in the water. The fox looked at the lake; he saw the image of the deer and thought it was another deer. The fox became very happy. He greedily thought of waiting for the second deer to eat two deer instead of one.

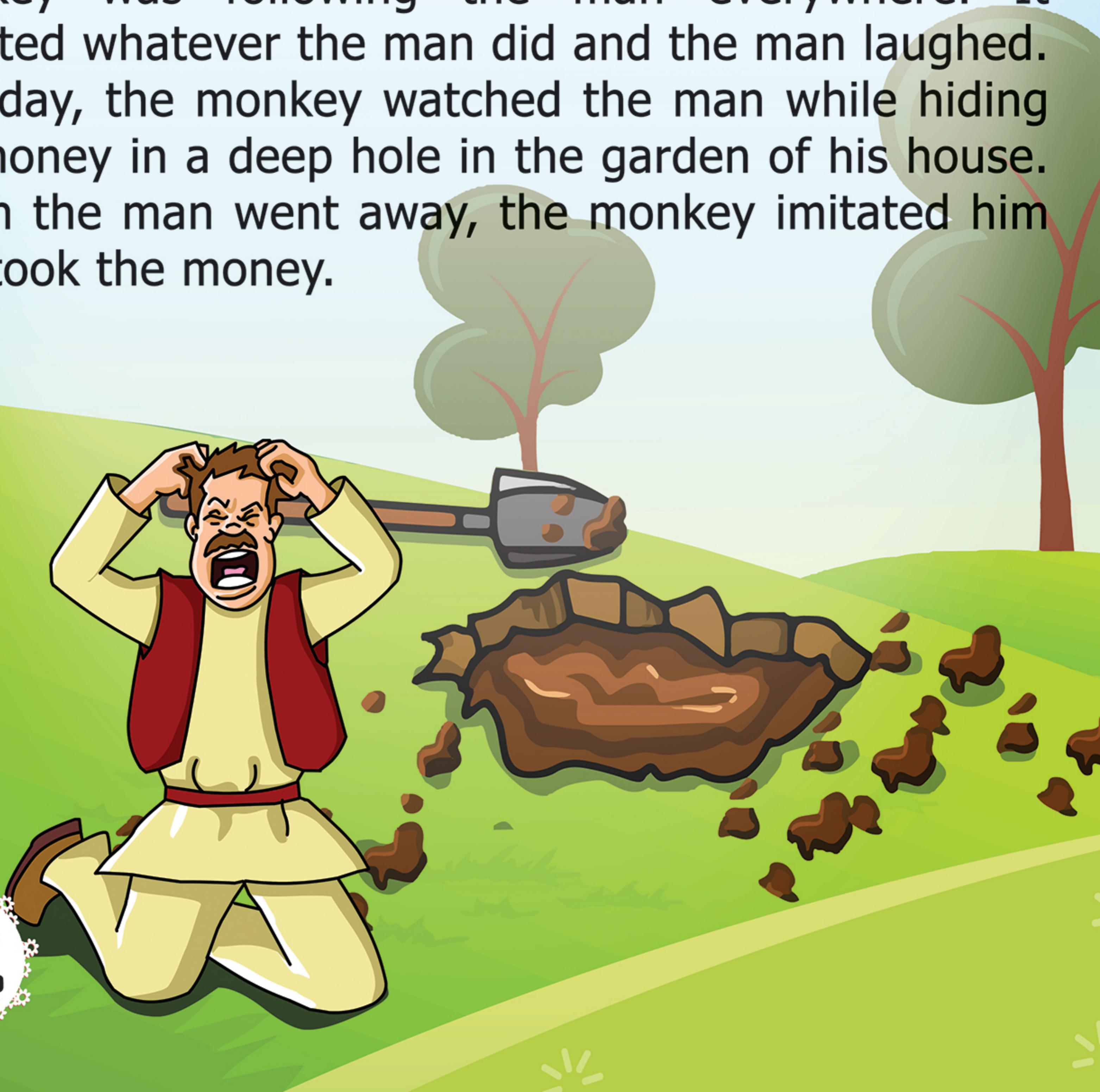


He waited for a long time but he fell asleep. The deer took the chance and she ran away quickly to her family who was very happy that she returned back safely.



The Stealing Monkey

Once upon a time, there was a wealthy man who was very stingy. He used to hide his wealth in a place that no one knew except him. He was afraid of thieves. One day, he went to the market. He saw a very strange monkey. This monkey was imitating his owner and was making very funny actions. The owner of the monkey was secretly watching the man. He offered selling the monkey to the man to entertain him. The man hesitated for some time then he accepted. The monkey was following the man everywhere. It imitated whatever the man did and the man laughed. One day, the monkey watched the man while hiding his money in a deep hole in the garden of his house. When the man went away, the monkey imitated him and took the money.

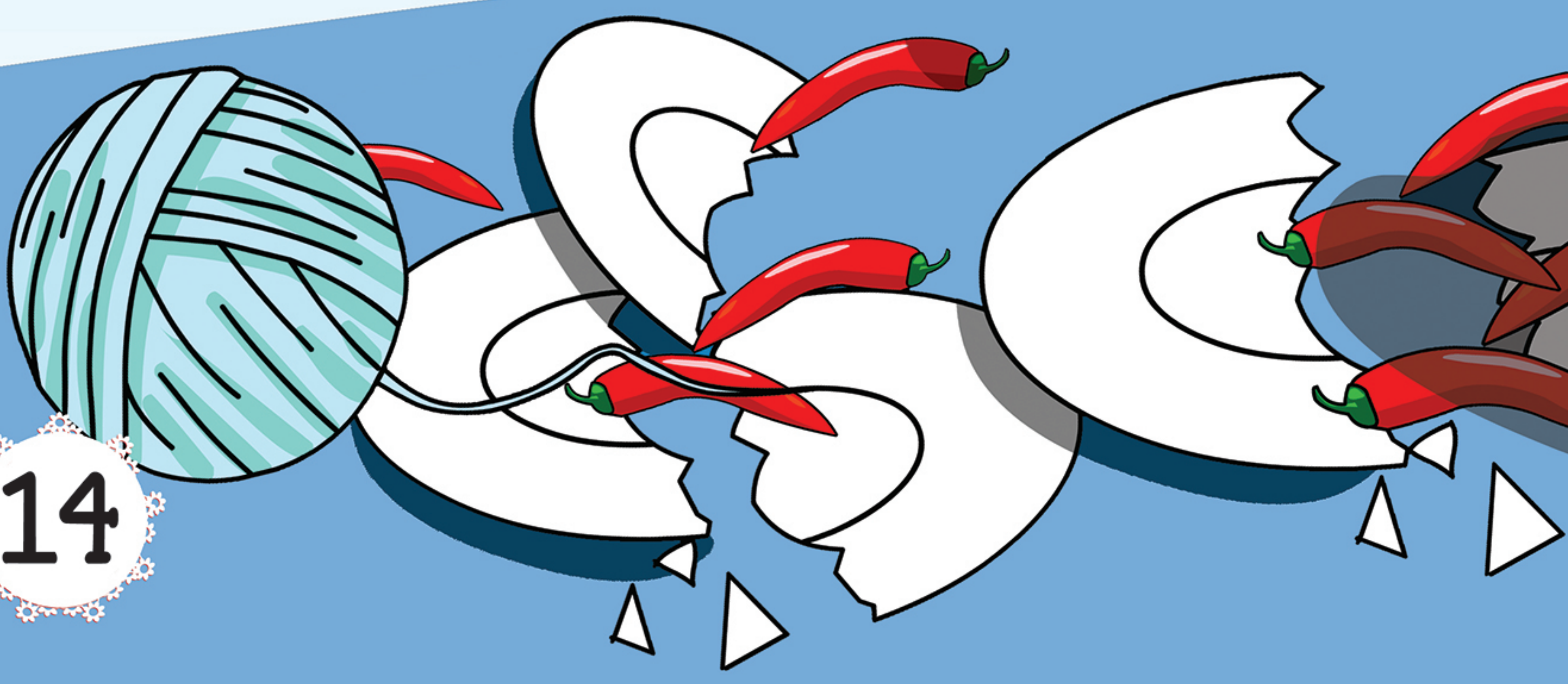


The monkey gave the money to its owner who was waiting for it outside the house of the man. The man came back and found out that his money was stolen. The man cried and wept. The people gathered around him. They laughed when they knew what happened. Although he was very careful a monkey stole his money.



Meshmesh, The Cat

Meshmesh liked discovering everything around him. His mother always warned him against his increasing curiosity. One day, Meshmesh was home alone playing with a ball of string. He got bored so he left the ball and went into the kitchen. He jumped from one place to another inside the kitchen. He saw a high shelf on which there were glass jars. The jars had colored things inside. He was very curious to know what was inside the jars. He jumped and jumped to reach the shelf. The shelf fell down and all the jars were broken. Meshmesh came near the broken jars and licked what fell out of them to know its taste. Suddenly, he cried with pain. The chili pepper made his tongue hurt badly. He went, quickly, out of the kitchen. His mother came back and knew what he had done. She became very angry and punished him. Meshmesh apologized and stopped being curious.





Glossary

The lazy rabbit:

Field: planted land

Tunnel: an underground passage dug by the rabbit

The greedy King:

Sheep: Sheep as well as goats, lambs and other animals of the same kind

The sleeping goose:

Plenty of food: a lot of food.

Flock of geese: a group of geese.

The snake and the frogs:

Promise: To tell someone that you will surely do something.

Discuss the matter over: talk together and listen to each other's opinion.

Get well: become no longer ill.

The stealing monkey

Wealthy/ rich: have a lot of money.

Meshmesh, the cat:

Curiosity nosiness: showing great interest in knowing things that we should not know.